



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes
SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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Business Owners Can Apply for Low-Interest Disaster Loans At SBA's Business Recovery Center

ATLANTA –The U.S. Small Business Administration announces the opening of a Business Recovery Center in Tuscaloosa County to help businesses that were affected by the severe storms, tornadoes, high winds and flooding that began on April 15, 2011. The Center is located at the Tuscaloosa Annex Building, located at 800 22nd Avenue, Tuscaloosa.

Businesses and private non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. The SBA may increase a loan up to 20 percent of the total amount of disaster damage to real estate and/or leasehold improvements, as verified by SBA, to make improvements that lessen the risk of property damage by future disasters of the same kind.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, non-profit organizations, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

SBA's representatives will be on hand at the Business Recovery Center to issue loan applications, answer questions about the disaster loan program, explain the application process and assist individuals to complete their applications. The Center will be located in the following community:

Tuscaloosa County

Tuscaloosa Annex Building

800 22nd Ave.

Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Hours of operation: Mon-Fri 8 am – 5 pm, until further notice.

SBA provides disaster loans to homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes. Interest rates are as low as 2.563 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

(more)

Additional assistance may be obtained by calling the SBA Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for people with speech or hearing disabilities) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET or by sending an e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Those affected by this disaster may fill out a loan application online by visiting SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **June 27, 2011**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **January 30, 2012**.

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For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov.